Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Sir, you have stated that no specific proposals have been received for the setting up of a Board for Krishna basin. In all our investigations made by our officers for over 40 to 50 years, is there any slight indication of any claim that may be put forward by the Kerala Government for Cauvery waters?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—Absolutely nothing.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—May I know whether the Kerala Government is a party to our agreement to Cauvery waters in any previous conference ?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—There is no dispute between us regarding Cauvery. It is only a statement said to have been made by the Kerala Chief Minister in the Assembly. That is all. That ends there. We have nothing to do with that matter.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—In answer to (c) it is stated that there are a number of matters under correspondence. It is this which has alarmed us. I hope this is not one of the matters.

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—The only matter is in regard to the supply of details of the Kabini Project.

DELAY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE ON SUVARNAVATI RIVER NEAR YELANDUR.

*Q.—1053. Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA (Nanjangud).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when the construction of the bridge on Suvarnavati River Yelandur was commenced;

(b) when it was expected to be completed;

(c) what is the present stage of the work;

(d) who is responsible for the delay;

(e) what action is taken against the defaulting contractor;

(f) whether the work carried out was according to specifications?

*A.—Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH (Minister for Public Works and Electricity).—

(a) 1st February 1959.

(b) 30th November 1960.

(*c*) Wells for foundation of the piers to a total depth of 908½ R. ft. are sunk.

(*d*) The work is stopped as there are some shifts and tilts in the wells sunk, and the delay is due to several unforeseen factors like elaborate dewatering equipment, loose type of foundation soil requiring testing the research station, want of skilled labour, etc.

(*e*) The question of whether the contractor can be held responsible is being examined by Government.

(*f*) Yes.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—May I know the date on which this work was stoped either at the initiative of the contractor himself or on the direction issued by the departmental offices ?

†Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—I am sorry, Sir, that the date on which the work was stopped is not available readily.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—When the work was expected to be completed on 30th November 1960, in the interval, what was it that happened that came in the way of stopping the work? When did the factors mentioned in the answer came to the notice of the departmental officers—this kind of irregularity?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—It has not been possible to get at the date.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Sir, was not the soil in the foundations checked and researches made in regard to the suitability of the site which was selected for putting up the bridge?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—Evidently that seems to be the position. They did not perhaps go deep enough to find out the soil.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Is it not usual and normal in such circumstances that a full investigation has to be made in regard to the type of soil found that is essential for the construction of a bridge?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—I agree with the Hon'ble Member.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Are you aware that your answer to question (*e*) and question (*f*) are contradictory?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—How?

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—To question (*f*) whether the work was carried out according to specifications, you say 'yes'. In regard to (*e*) what action is taken against the defaulting contractor, your answer is the question of whether the contractor can be held responsible is being examined by Government. If the work was carried according to specifications, if that is the position Government has taken, where is the necessity for examining whether he has employed at that stage when the work was progressing—the departmental officers to have gone and investigated.....

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—There are two aspects to this question. Perhaps in the investigation first stage, they might not have gone very deep into the foundation. After it was decided specification perhaps means so much of concrete, so much of this material and, etc.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—What is this dewatering equipment you are referring to? Is it an elaborate equipment?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—The underground is profuse. Therefore they had to use pumps to draw out that water.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Was it a different well pump or was the quantity of water enormous?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—The water was so much that they had to use pumping sets to lift water.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SHETTY.—You have said in answer to (c) to a total depth of 908½ feet. May I know whether when wells are sunk to such a depth, there would be tilts?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.— There are 9 or 12 wells. According to layman's view point like myself, the wells are too near each other. So, when digging perhaps the hand jerked and then it tilted.

ಶ್ರೀ ಜೆ. ಬಿ. ಮರ್ಲಾರಾಧ್ಯ.—"Leaning Tower of Pisa" ಇರುವಂತೆ ಇದನ್ನು tourist centre ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಇಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದಿರುವ modern engineering skill ನೋಡಬಹುದು ಎಂದೂ ಹೇಳಿದೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಹೆಚ್. ಕೆ. ವೀರಣ್ಣಗೌಡ.—Engineering skill ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇವೊತ್ತು comment ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದನ್ನು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಪೂರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Will the Government see to the construction of this bridge which is very important and in urgent need of the entire area?

Sri H. K. VEERANNA GOWDH.—The experts seem to differ from one another. Some feel that we should abadon and some people feel that it should be set right. Government have to come to a final decision in the matter. It is a question of cost also.